

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 SIG-03 NEA-10
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /064 R

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IO/UNP: DADAMSON (SUB)
PM/DCA: MARIETTI (SUB)
AF/E: SHAMRICK

-----129976 140335Z /66

P 132332Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD, PORC

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT
(CD) MEMBERS: KENYAN CANDIDACY

REFS: A) GENEVA 13606; B) STATE 206907

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE KENYA SELECTED AS ADDITIONAL
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN MEMBER FOR CD AND ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD
SERVE US INTEREST TO ACCOMMODATE NIGERIANS, AND SPECIFICALLY
AMBASSADOR ADENIJI, BY BEING RESPONSIVE TO REQUEST
REPORTED REFTEL. AT SAME TIME, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO GIVE
KENYA FALSE IMPRESSION OF THE DEGREE OF SUPPORT US COULD
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OFFER IT IN ITS COMPETITION WITH OTHER AFRICAN CANDIDATES.
SELECTION PROCESS WILL REQUIRE AGREEMENT ON A SLATE AS A
WHOLE, AND IF SCHIEVING OUR MORE IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES
(SEATS FOR A NATO COUNTRY, AUSTRALIA AND VENEZUELA) SHOULD
REQUIRE ACCEPTANCE OF A BLACK AFRICAN STATE OTHER THAN
KENYA, WE WOULD DO SO.

2. IN LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, EMBASSY SHOULD DISCUSS CD MEMBERSHIP QUESTION WITH KENYAN GOVERNMENT ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

-- WE WERE PLEASED WITH EARLIER INTEREST EXPRESSED BY KENYA IN BEING SELECTED AS ONE OF THE ADDITIONAL FIVE TO EIGHT MEMBERS TO BE ADDED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT.

-- WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT OTHER BLACK AFRICAN STATES HAVE BEEN MORE ACTIVE IN PROMOTING THEIR CANDIDACY. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION FROM OUR CONSULTATIONS THAT THERE WOULD BE SUPPORT FOR KENYA AMONG OAU STATES, INCLUDING NIGERIA, BUT THAT THIS WILL NOT MATERIALIZE UNLESS KENYA BECOMES A MORE ACTIVE CANDIDATE.

-- WE WOULD THEREFORE URGE KENYA TO MAKE ITS CONTINUED INTEREST IN THE CD KNOWN TO KEY AFRICAN STATES (INCLUDING CCD MEMBERS NIGERIA, ETHIOPIA, ZAIRE, EGYPT AND MOROCCO) BOTH AT THE UN IN NEW YORK AND IN CAPITALS.

-- WHILE THE US IS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE KENYAN CANDIDACY, WE CANNOT OF COURSE OFFER ANY ASSURANCE THAT IT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. THE FINAL SLATE OF ADDITIONAL CD MEMBERS AGREED UPON WILL HAVE TO REPRESENT A BALANCE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL GROUPS. (FYI. THERE APPEARS TO BE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON ALGERIA AS CHOICE FOR NON-BLACK-AFRICAN PLACE. CONFIDENTIAL

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END FYI.)

-- SINCE SELECTION PROCESS MAY MOVE RAPIDLY OVER THE NEXT WEEK, KENYA SHOULD ACT QUICKLY. CHRISTOPHER

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